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To Whom It May Concern,
We've noticed that Sony Pictures Imageworks has applied for a handful of patents that bear a strong resemblance to claims in patent #6,720,692. Their patent applications do not contain any references to prior art that I can see and should probably at the very least be amended.

1) Instanced hair database for use in a hair/fur pipeline

Inventors: Bruderlin; Armin Walter; (Culver City, CA) ; Chardavoine; Francois; (Los Angeles, CA) ; Chua; Clint; (Alhambra, CA) ; Melich; Gustav; (Playa del Rey, CA)
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US
Serial No.: 880588
Series Code: 11
Filed: July 23, 2007

2) Sub-patch optimization techniques for use in a hair/fur pipeline

Inventors: Bruderlin; Armin Walter; (Culver City, CA) ; Chardavoine; Francois; (Los Angeles, CA) ; Chua; Clint; (Alhambra, CA) ; Melich; Gustav; (Playa del Rey, CA)
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Filed: May 11, 2007

3) Fill-volume techniques for use in a hair/fur pipeline

Inventors: Bruderlin; Armin Walter; (Culver City, CA) ; Chardavoine; Francois; (Los Angeles, CA) ; Chua; Clint; (Alhambra, CA) ; Melich; Gustav; (Playa del Rey, CA)
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Series Code: 11
Filed: May 11, 2007

Kind Regards